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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

- 1 1. (Currently Amended) A method for the automatic configuration of a bi-directional
2 Internet Protocol (IP) communication device, comprising:
3 broadcasting a request for basic configuration details for the IP
4 communication device, where said request contains a unique bi-directional IP
5 communication device identifier associated with a unique user;
6 receiving said basic configuration details from a server, where
7 said basic configuration details are assigned to said unique user based
8 on said unique bi-directional IP communication device identifier; and
9 configuring said bi-directional IP communication device with
10 said basic configuration details.
- 1 2. (Original)The method of claim 1, wherein said broadcasting further comprises
2 broadcasting said request for basic configuration details, including an IP
3 address, to a Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP) server, where
4 said bi-directional IP communication device is a Digital Subscriber Line (DSL)
5 gateway.
- 1 3. (Original)The method of claim 2, wherein said receiving comprises obtaining an
2 IP address from said DHCP server.
- 1 4. (Original)The method of claim 1, further comprising transmitting a configuration
2 request for additional configuration details.
- 1 5. (Original)The method of claim 4, further comprising receiving said additional
2 configuration details specific to said unique user.
- 1 6. (Original)The method of claim 5, further comprising configuring said bi-
2 directional IP communication device with said additional configuration details.
- 1 7. (Original)The method of claim 1, further comprising, before said broadcasting
2 step, the steps of:
3 connecting said bi-directional IP communication device to an analog
4 telephone line; and
5 powering said bi-directional IP communication device on.
- 1 8. (Original)The method of claim 1, further comprising, before said broadcasting
2 step, the step of automatically detecting a DSL communication circuit.
- 1 9. (Original)The method of claim 1, further comprising, before said broadcasting
2 step, the step of automatically determining Permanent Virtual Circuit (PVC)
3 details for communications between said bi-directional IP communication
4 device and a communications network.

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- 1 10. (Original)The method of claim 9, wherein said determining comprises the step of
2 ascertaining a VPINCI (Virtual Path Identifier/Virtual Channel Identifier) pair
3 for said communications.
- 1 11. (Original)The method of claim 1, wherein said broadcasting comprises
2 broadcasting a DHCP Discover request.
- 1 12. (Original)The method of claim 1, wherein said receiving comprises acquiring a
2 DHCP Offer message from a DHCP server.
- 1 13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising, prior to said
2 configuring step, the steps of:
3 sending a DHCP Request message to said a DHCP server; and
4 receiving a DHCP acknowledge message from said DHCP server.
- 1 14. (Original)The method of claim 1, wherein said broadcasting and receiving steps
2 occur automatically without any communication between said bi-directional IP
3 communication device and a client computer coupled to said bi-directional IP
4 communication device.
- 1 15. (Original)The method of claim 1, further comprising, prior to said configuring
2 step, the steps of:
3 assigning said unique bi-directional IP communication device
4 identifier to said bi-directional IP communication device; and
5 associating said unique bi-directional IP communication device
6 identifier with said unique user.
- 1 16. (Original)The method of claim 15, further comprising generating a configuration
2 table listing bi-directional-IP communication device identifiers and associated
3 users.
- 1 17. (Currently Amended)A bi-directional IP communication device, comprising:
2 a Central Processing Unit (CPU);
3 communication circuitry;
4 input/output ports; and
5 a memory containing:
6 a unique bi-directional IP communication device
7 identifier;
8 instructions for broadcasting a request for basic
9 configuration details for the IP communication device, where said request
10 contains a unique bi-directional IP communication device identifier
11 associated with a unique user;
12 instructions for receiving said basic configuration details
13 from a server, where said basic configuration details is assigned
14 to said unique user based on said unique bi-directional IP

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15 communication device identifier; and
16 instructions for configuring said bi-directional IP
17 communication device with said basic configuration details.

1 18. (Original)The bi-directional IP communication device of claim 17, wherein said
2 instructions for broadcasting further comprise instructions for broadcasting said request
3 for basic configuration details, including an IP address, to a Dynamic Host Configuration
4 Protocol (DHCP) server, where said bi-directional IP communication device is a Digital
5 Subscriber Line (DSL) gateway.

1 19. (Currently Amended)A computer program product for use in conjunction with a
2 computer system for the automatic configuration of a bi-directional Internet Protocol (IP)
3 communication device, the computer program product comprising a computer
4 readable storage and a computer program stored therein, the computer
5 program comprising:

6 instructions for broadcasting a request for basic
7 configuration details for the IP communication device, where said request
8 contains a unique bi-directional IP communication device identifier
9 associated with a unique user;

10 instructions for receiving said basic configuration details
11 from a server, where said basic configuration details is assigned
12 to said unique user based on said unique bi-directional IP
13 communication device identifier; and

14 instructions for configuring said bi-directional IP
15 communication device with said basic configuration details.

1 20. (Original)The computer program product of claim 19, wherein said instructions
2 for broadcasting further comprise instructions for broadcasting said request
3 for basic configuration details, including an IP address, to a Dynamic Host
4 Configuration Protocol (DHCP) server, where said bi-directional IP
5 communication device is a Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) gateway.

1 21. (New) The method of claim 11, wherein a configuration table listing device
2 identifiers, their associated users, and each user's basic configuration details is stored in
3 the server.

1 22. (New) A method for the automatic configuration of a bi-directional Internet
2 Protocol (IP) communication device, comprising:
3 connecting a bi-directional Internet Protocol (IP) communication device to
4 a network, said device having a unique device identifier that is associated at a
5 server with a unique user prior to connection;
6 broadcasting a request for basic configuration details for the IP
7 communication device over the network to the server, where said request
8 contains the unique device identifier;
9 receiving said basic configuration details from the server, where
10 said basic configuration details for the IP communication device are assigned to

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11 said unique user based on said unique device identifier; and
12 configuring said IP communication device with said basic configuration
13 details.

1 23. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein a configuration table listing device
2 identifiers, their associated users, and each user's basic configuration details is stored in
3 the server.

1 24. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein said basic configuration details for the IP
2 communication device include an IP address.

1 25. (New) The method of claim 22, further comprising, before said broadcasting
2 step, the step of automatically detecting a dial-tone for the internet protocol.

1 26. (New) A method for the automatic configuration of a bi-directional Internet
2 Protocol (IP) communication device, comprising:
3 providing a bi-directional Internet Protocol (IP) communication device having a
4 unique device identifier;
5 associating the device identifier with a user identifier for a unique user of the IP
6 communication device;
7 providing the IP communication device to the unique user;
8 providing the device identifier and the user identifier to an internet service
9 provider (ISP);
10 generating a configuration table listing device identifiers, their associated users,
11 and each user's basic configuration details;
12 storing the configuration table in a server;
13 connecting the IP communication device to a network at a user site;
14 broadcasting a request for basic configuration details for the IP communication
15 device to the server over the network, where said request contains the unique device
16 identifier;
17 identifying the user's basic configuration details in the configuration table from
18 the device identifier;
19 transmitting the basic configuration details to the user site IP communications
20 device;
21 receiving said basic configuration details from the server; and
22 configuring said IP communication device with said basic configuration details.

1 27. (New) The method of claim 26, further comprising, before said broadcasting
2 step, the step of automatically detecting a dial-tone for the internet protocol.